

**"Did You Know" Facts:**

Mercer Lake was constructed at no cost to taxpayers because the fill was used to construct Interstate 295.

In 1975, the 365-acre lake began with the construction of a dam by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (now known as Natural Resources Conservation Service.)

The dam that created the lake was built to control flooding along the Assunpink Creek in the City of Trenton and neighboring areas. This project turned



a former marsh into a lake suitable for boating and fishing, which led to the development of the boathouse and marina.

**Finn Caspersen Rowing Center**

Named for Finn M.W. Caspersen, former Board Chair of the Peddie School and located on the North shore of Mercer Lake, the boathouse was built to provide a better venue for local scholastic rowing programs. Though privately funded, the project was a joint effort between The Peddie School, The Lawrenceville School and Mercer County officials. The Center is home to the Princeton National Rowing Association, whose mission combines youth and masters programs with elite rowing and international racing, allowing athletes of all skill levels and ages to train, improve and achieve together.

The site is designated as a United States Olympic Training Site serving as the training venue for the US National and Olympic Rowing Teams. Women that train on Mercer Lake won the Olympic Gold Medals in the Women’s 8+ in 2008 Beijing and 2012 London and a Silver in Athens. The Women’s 4x won the Bronze in the 2012 London Games. Since 2001, every US Olympic or National Team Rowing athlete has trained or been through a selection race on Mercer Lake.



**2013 Mercer Lake and Marina Events**



**April**

- 19 & 20**                    **Mercer Lake Sprints**
- 27**                         **MAAC Rowing Championship**

**May**

- 10 & 11**                   **Mid-Atlantic Junior Regional Rowing Championships**
- 19**                         **Big East Women’s Rowing Championships**
- 25**                         **Marina Boat Rental Opens**  
**From May 25th to June 9th 12 to 6pm weekends only.**  
**(last boat rents at 6pm, returns to dock by 7pm)**

**June**

- 8**                            **Paddle For Pink Dragon Boat Races 9am to 5pm**
- 12**                         **Marina regular summer boat rental schedule begins:**  
**Monday and Tuesday: closed.**  
**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: noon to 5pm**  
**Saturday & Sunday: noon to 6pm**

- 15 & 16**                   **New Jersey “Free Fishing Days” for 2013**  
**(no fishing license needed these days only)**

- 29**                         **Mercer County Freedom Festival, Mercer County Park**  
**2pm to 10pm (Marina closes 6pm)**

**July**

- 20 & 21**                   **New Jersey State Triathlon, Mercer County Park**  
**5:30 am to noon**

**Sept**

- 2**                            **Labor Day (last day of Marina boat rental 12 to 6pm)**
- 14 & 15**                   **Great White North Dragon Boat Races 9am-5pm**

**D&D Catering**



***At Mercer County Park***

***On the Water’s Edge at the Marina***



The Perfect Place for Weddings, Parties, Business Meetings, Corporate Events, and Private Picnics

For more information, please call:

**(609) 586-0883**

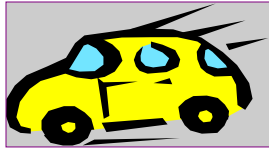


**Piscine Pursuits**

Mercer Lake is considered one of the best “musky” fisheries in New Jersey, closely followed by the lake’s large-mouth bass population. Mercer Lake truly is a “go-to” place for freshwater fishing.

Mercer Lake also has a thriving population of other species that are accessible by boat and from the shore. Licensed anglers can hope to catch any of the following species: black crappie, sunfish, yellow perch, bluegills, pumpkinseed and American eel to name a few.

The Mercer County Park Commission advocates “Catch & Release” fishing.



## Directions:

**Address: 334 South Post RD  
West Windsor, NJ 08550**

**From Princeton:** Take Route 1 South past Nassau Park Blvd. Go 0.4 miles under the overpass onto Quakerbridge Road (Rt. 533 South.) Go through 5 traffic lights and turn left onto Youngs Road. Then go 0.3 miles and turn right onto Hughes Drive; follow Hughes to left turn at Mercer County Park entrance (please note that the park is BEFORE Mercer County Community College.) Take the winding, divided park road for 1.2 miles, pass the West Picnic Area, and turn left at the Marina entrance.

**From I-95 and I-295:** Take exit 67A (Rt. 1 North towards New Brunswick.) Stay to the right and pass Quakerbridge Mall. Exit right onto Quakerbridge Road (Rt. 533 South.) Go through 4-5 traffic lights and turn left onto Youngs Road. Then go 0.3 miles and turn right onto Hughes Drive; follow Hughes to left turn at Mercer County Park entrance (please note that the park is BEFORE Mercer County Community College.) Take the winding, divided park road for 1.2 miles, pass the West Picnic Area, and turn left at the Marina entrance.



## Marina Schedule and Hours of Operation

**BOAT RAMP:** The Marina Boat Ramp is open for public use seven days a week weather permitting, from sunrise to one hour prior to sunset. No gasoline engines, only electric motors are permitted on Mercer Lake. Lake closed when ice is present.

**MARINA BOAT RENTAL SCHEDULE:**  
Days and times shown are “weather-permitting”

### ***From May 25 to June 9***

- Open weekends/holidays, from noon to 6pm (last boat rents at 6pm back by 7pm)

### ***From June 12 to Sept 2 (Labor Day)***

- Wednesday thru Friday, from noon to 5pm (last boat rents at 5pm back by 6pm)
- Saturdays, Sundays & holidays, from noon to 6pm (last boat rents at 6 pm back by 7pm)
- Closed Mondays and Tuesdays

### **Lake Tours:**

Pontoon boat lake tours  
Saturdays and Sundays Memorial day to Labor day  
50 Min tour (15 people max)  
Tours begin at: 1:00pm, 3:00pm and 5:00pm  
First come first serve (weather permitting)  
Adult \$7, Jr \$5 (12 & under) Sr \$5 (62 and Older)

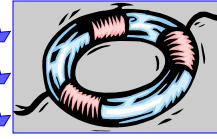
### **RENTAL BOATS:**

Rowboats and Pedal Boats have a maximum capacity of 4 people per boat.  
Kayaks available are single or two person

**RENTAL FEES:** Row / Pedal Boats & single person kayaks are \$15 per hour. Two person kayaks are \$20 per hour. All boats rented with drivers license/ID held as deposit. After the first hour the cost is \$5 per every half hour or less of use. (example: 1 hour and 15 minutes of use would total \$20 per row, pedal or single person kayak, two person kayak would be \$25)

### **RULES:**

- Everyone in boat must wear a life vest at all times.
- No standing, rough-housing, or bumping boats.
- No swimming** in the lake at any time.
- You must be at least 17 yrs old to rent a boat.
- ID (proof of age) required to rent all boats
- Fishing is permitted from rowboats only.



## Things To Do

The Mercer County Marina on Mercer Lake consists of a beautiful lakeside boathouse, a boat ramp for launching small boats, 1,000 square feet of docks and rental boats. Mercer Lake is approximately 2 miles long, 365 acres in area, with an average depth of 11 feet. Numerous picnic areas and miles of bike trails surround the lake.

### **Visitors can enjoy the following**

- Boating for canoes, kayaks, small sailboats, pedal boats and rowboats.
- Free use of boat ramp
- Fishing(15 & up license req)
- Picnics/cookout outings
- Beach volleyball courts
- Lake side village playground is barrier free & accessible to children with special needs
- **Snack bar** located at the lower level of the Marina building offering ice cream, hotdogs, cold drinks & more.
- **Public restrooms** located lower level of marina building lake side facing the water.

# Mercer County Marina

**Mercer County Park  
West Windsor, New Jersey  
(609) 448-4004**



**Brian M. Hughes  
County Executive**



**Kevin B. Bannon  
Executive Director**



**Operated and Maintained by the  
Mercer County Park Commission**